

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 7-12 are currently pending in this application as amended. By this Reply, claims 1 and 2 have been amended, and claims 1-12 have been added. No new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

In the Action, claims 7-9 were allowed. Further, the Action indicated that the prior art does not teach the subject matter of claims 1, 2 and 4 as presented in the previous Reply. However, claims 1, 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, due to different embodiments of the invention being recited in independent claim 1. It was suggested in the Action that claim 1 be divided into two separate claims to claim the separate embodiments in separate claims.

In response, applicants have amended claim 1 to delete the language pertaining to one of the separate embodiments, and new claim 10 has been added to incorporate the subject matter deleted from claim 1. New claims 11 and 12 have also been added which correspond to claims 2 and 4, and depend from new claim 10 in view of these amendments. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2 and 4, as amended, are in compliance with 35 USC §112, and that new claims 10-12 are also in compliance with Section 112. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant: Boss et al.
Application No.: 10/820,394

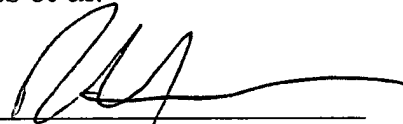
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1, 2, 4 and 7-12 is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Boss et al.

By



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